

Mr. Chairman, members of the committee;

My name is Amber Goodin and I was involved with Youth Homes out of Missoula. In 2003 I was placed in the Talbot Home to deal with issues surrounding my mother's drug abuse and an incident involving myself and sexual abuse. While I was with Youth Homes I was given a stable, functional living situation along with group and individual therapy. One thing I experienced that I really enjoyed was the summer program. It gave me the opportunity to experience things that I may not have had otherwise. The second best thing about my care with Youth Homes was the ability to have people around me who genuinely cared about what was going on in my life and who cared about making a difference in how successful I was going to be in leading a functional, healthy life. Youth Homes showed me how to recognize behaviors and habits that were causing me harm and change them into something that would benefit me. My involvement with Youth Homes and the people who work there inspired me to want to better myself and the relationships I had with people...they gave me a glimpse of what I could achieve in my life and then provided me with the tools to get there.

Currently I am attending the University of Montana and am pursuing a degree in Psychology. Once that is completed, I hope to pursue a career either with Youth Homes or doing something similar.

Amber Goodin

Cell: (406)239-8108

Home Address: 2214 Margaret St. Missoula, Mt 59801

Email: mzamber@hotmail.com